

What will we study? We will study approximately seven topics. Each topic will last approximately four or five weeks:



Studying Geography
United States and Canada
Central America
South America

The Pacific Islands
Australia & New Zealand
Southeast Asia

What will I be able to do by the end of this year? By the end of this year, you should be able to:

- be familiar with the general historical background, culture, contributions and challenges of each region above
- identify basic geographical areas that we study
- display improved communication skills through oral and written activities
- produce a basic research paper with proper citation
- work well on your own and in groups
- reflect on your own work and set goals to improve

What do I need to bring to class? Bring your class textbook, a two-ring notebook with A4 paper and dividers, pencil, and agenda book to every class. Other supplies may be needed for special activities but you will receive notice ahead of time.

How is my grade calculated? Each homework assignment, quiz, etc. is given a point value. If you want to know your grade at any given time, divide the number of points you've earned by the total points possible.

For example: You earned 45 points and there were 55 points available up to that day:

$$\frac{45}{55} = \text{your percentage would be } .818\% \text{ (82 \% , B-)}$$

You can always find the total number of points possible from the master assignment sheet posted in the classroom.

May I turn in late homework? You may turn in late homework without penalty if you have an excused absence from school. If you have an unexcused absence or you are not ready to turn in your homework, you may submit it during that trimester; Mrs. Fradale will provide the final day for late submissions. Late work will be penalized 20% so it is a good idea to turn in all work on time.

What rules do I need to follow? Middle school rules are to be followed everywhere on campus including your classroom.

What happens when I follow all the rules and try my best?

Positive comments via phone or letter

Games and fun activities in class

Increased say in when assignments are due and tests given

Multiple skills that will enable you to succeed in high school and beyond

What types of assignments will I have?

Bellringers- daily, usually collected every two classes

Class activities- once or twice a week

Notes and graphic organizers- every week with as much time given in class as possible

Quizzes/Tests- usually every week or two as needed

Current Events- usually monthly

Research Project- one major research paper with possible smaller ones